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Original Communications.

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Editor of the New England Farmer.

IMPROVEMENT OF FARMS.

Essex County, March 20.

DEAR SIR—Such are the constant variations in the nature of the soil throughout almost all New England, that a common farm of 60 or 100 acres can hardly be taken up, where places cannot be found in some degree suitable for the growth of most of the things raised in this part of the country, so that what is said of the whole territory of the United States, that its various latitudes make it independent of other parts of the world, may be said with some variation, of every N. England Yeoman,—he is independent of all his neighbours around him. But when it may be said, that almost every farmer can raise most or all the things, commonly cultivated in this part of the country, it does not follow that his farm is equally calculated for all. Indeed it is very obvious there is a great difference in the adaptation of different farms to different kinds of produce, not only in different towns but in those in the same neighborhood, One is best for grass, another for grain, a third for roots, and so on; and though a man may grow them all, yet there will be a vast difference in the labour and expense, as also in the comparative produce of the different articles. So that though it may be often convenient to raise all our things, and also possible, yet it may by no means, be advisable.

The proper course to be pursued is, for a man to look at his farm to ascertain its *prevailing* qualities, and for what it is best qualified, as a prevailing crop. In doing this he must consider not simply the soil, which he is to cultivate, but also what is its condition in respect to means of improvement, the manure (I use the word now in its extensive sense, to include every thing there is calculated to aid the earth in yielding a rich and encouraging produce) which may be obtained, and the expense of procuring it. And when this is ascertained, to direct his principal attention to this object, tho' it may subject him to the necessity of purchasing many of the necessaries of life, which would be possible for him to raise—for he would have the means of purchase and could procure them at less expense than he could raise them—and this upon the same principle that a merchant or mechanic purchases any part of the produce of the field called for by his necessities.

Another thing is also important, and that is that the first efforts for improvement should be made upon the best pieces of land. This may be the manner of some—I think it is not of the many. Pieces may already yield a pleasant and profitable crop, yet it is true, that in most instances, all labour and expense upon them turns to the best advantage. Often the labour and expense put upon a poor lot, which only makes it passable, and hardly worth possessing, would make a good lot remarkable—I know and feel the temptations, which urge to a different course; but I am persuaded they ought not to be yielded to. There is a sturdy unyielding principle among New England people, which prompts them to undertake almost any thing, where their strength of body or mind may have room for exercise. And this, among other things, has perhaps induced some to undertake to conquer (such is the word,) some of the most forbidding pieces of land, and urges them on, till they have succeeded. And nothing, in one sense, can be more pleasing than to see what has been effected. But, on the other hand, it is unpleasant to see so much labour wasted to little profit, while another part of the farm would have returned to the cultivator an hundred fold reward. The time may come, but it has not yet come, when these rough places must be made smooth, and when the time comes there will be profit as well as pleasure in doing it. The course which wisdom points out is to advance, towards this Herculean labour, as there is interest in the way to it, and as the richer and better fields afford the means of accomplishing it. And perhaps I ought to add as the vegetables are discovered to which these barren and hard places are adapted.

What a field of a particular soil will produce the best, is a matter of experience, drawn from our own practice, or that of others who have lived before us, and it is happy that experience has now been so great that there is not much difficulty in knowing what the soil of any farm in its uncultivated state is the most natural for.—But it is no easy matter to determine in what way these alterations may be produced, which will give these the greatest fruitfulness. A man may indeed have every thing within his reach necessary to make his field like the garden of God, and yet not knowing how to use them may suffer his field to be like the valley of salt. This arises from ignorance of the constituent parts of earth. In what ingredient one soil abounds, in what it is deficient, from what part of his premises he can take what will add richness to another part, from what two fields there shall be an exchange, which like the commerce of nations, shall give riches to both.

All, it is true, have some knowledge on this subject, but the knowledge of most is small.—And what is worse, there is, Mr. Editor, no way within the power of farmers immediately to remedy this. They are ignorant of those chemical principles by which this can be determined, and it is not easy, I may say possible, under present circumstances, to possess themselves of them. It is true that directions have been given in your paper and in other papers to analyze soils; and these may be intelligible to those who are learned, or have seen them performed, but not so to farmers, with the advantages they commonly possess. And till there is some other means of information, progress in this part of agricultural science must be slow. Farmers cannot go abroad to get it; their business confines them at home; the rising generation will enjoy better opportunities in the places of learning than the present generation, but farmers want the advantage, which science already possessed, would give them. And among the means of sending these abroad among the farmers of these states, it has occurred to my mind, and you will permit me to express the sentiment to you, that there should be employed by the Agricultural Societies, separately or in concert, some experienced and scientifick men, to visit the several towns in these states, and the farms of the members of such societies for the purpose of actually making experiments upon the soils, and as far as possible determine their leading properties. And further to give instruction in regard to the soils, which should be mixed, or what manure is most promising on any particular fields. You may be sure that it is a subject of vast importance to farmers, that additional information, on this subject, be possessed, and information which scientifick men have in their power to convey. By books they can do something—by papers they can do more, but in neither way can they do enough. I do not know how the method proposed may strike your mind, or that of others; but it does appear to me that such a plan carried once into operation, would be of almost unspeakable advantage. And that many farms would be enhanced in value almost beyond calculation, by it. I might refer you to instances which would go to justify this idea; but the thing appears too obvious to need, with such a mind as yours, any thing more than a bare statement to acquire your assent to the measure, as to what would be good; you or others may think of a better; if so, as one interested in the advancement of the agricultural interest of this country I shall rejoice. For my object is not the honour of originating a plan but the advantages to which the plan will lead. But I do say that knowledge is wanted, and that men of science have it in their power to give, if not all that is required, yet to give much; and that in fetching their knowledge to the understanding and door of the farmer, is the best way in which the funds of agricultural societies can be employed. The grand question is, how can this most economically and effectually be done? I have showed you my opinion—will you give the public yours?

P.

REMARKS.

It appears to us that very beneficial results might be the consequence of pursuing the foregoing suggestions. It is certainly expedient to ascertain the ingredients of a barren soil before any attempt can be made to improve it with a certainty of success. No farmer is ignorant of the facts that a sandy soil may be improved by clay, marl, sea ooze, vegetable earth, pond or river mud; that a gravelly soil requires similar applications; that clay requires sand, or gravel to amend its texture, &c. And it is often the case that unless the texture of a soil is amended, the application of common barn-yard manure is comparatively of very little value. But it not unfrequently happens that a soil may appear to have a proper mixture of those kinds of earth which usually constitute fertile fields and yet be unusually barren. Sir Humphry Davy says (Agricultural Chemistry, page 181) "A soil of *good apparent texture* from Lincolnshire, was put into my hands by Sir Joseph Banks as remarkable for sterility: on examining it I found it contained sulphate of iron; (copperas) and I offered the obvious remedy of a top dressing of lime,

which converts the sulphate into a manure." We have seen drained swamps which disappointed the expectations of the husbandman, though the soil was black and apparently fertile, and have no doubt that its barrenness was owing to salts of iron, as the water that flowed from it was covered with that kind of scum which denotes the presence of iron. In this case a bushel of quick lime would be worth more than tons of barn yard manure for making the soil productive. Chemical analysis would also furnish data for ascertaining whether plaister or lime would prove useful as manure. According to Sir Humphry Davy, all soils which do not naturally contain plaister would receive benefit from its application.

Something of the kind suggested by our correspondent might be united with other objects, specified in a valuable paper, published in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository for June 1824, and re-published in the current volume of the New England Farmer, page 4—"On the importance and practicability of procuring and publishing agricultural surveys of the several counties of this State."

PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING AGRICULTURE.

Stated meeting, March 15, 1825.—Dr MEASE, Vice President, in the chair; the following communications were read—

1. The answer of General Lafayette to the address of the Society, presented to him by Mr Breck, Representative in Congress from Philadelphia County, and a member of the Society, with his certificate of honorary membership of the Society.

2. A letter to the chairman from Benjamin Harrison of Berkeley, Charles-City County, Virginia, dated January 21, 1825, in reply to a letter addressed to him, respecting a cure which it was understood he had effected of that fatal disease, the *Bloody Murrain* in cattle, by a drench of the infusion of cedar berries. The medicine was tried upon the suggestion of Mr Jones of Gloucester, Va. A quart of the infusion, containing about half a pint of the berries, was given at a time; and in nearly every case, the good effects were almost instantaneous; a considerable discharge from the bladder and bowels followed, and in five or ten minutes' time, the animal began to eat. In nineteen cases out of twenty, a perfect cure was effected. In many cases the drench was repeated four or five times. So rapid was the progress of the disease, that cattle were found dead in the fields without the owners having any apprehensions of their being sick. As a preventive, Mr William Minge, of James River, informed Mr Harrison of the use of a mixture of clay, salt, (in the common proportion for stock,) tar and powdered brimstone. For fifty head, one gallon of tar, and half a pound of brimstone, per week, were employed. These ingredients were put in a trough to which the cattle had free access. The disease it appears is *endemic** in Virginia, particularly in the districts bordering on tide water, and is highly contagious. The farmers of the United States will have good reason to thank Mr Harrison for the communication of an effectual cure for a disease which has destroyed thousands of cattle in the United States. In 1819 it prevailed with great mortality in Chester county. Some papers on the subject will appear in the fifth volume of Memoirs of the Society, now in press by Abm. Small.

3. A letter to the Chairman from Dr Kercheval, of Bard's town, Kentucky, in reply to one requesting some explanation and further account of a fatal disease that prevailed among horses and horned cattle in that vicinity, and described by Dr Kercheval in the Medical Recorder of Philadelphia, vol 4th, p. 445.—The external symptom of the disease, was a swelling sometimes originating in the throat, but generally at the breast, extending along the sides to the flanks, and uniting across the loins. These swellings were soft and elastic, and after death were found to contain grumous blood, and coagulated lymph. The blood was in some instances so dissolved, as to transude the skin.—The progress of the disease was very rapid.—Cattle brought up to the fold in the morning apparently well, died before noon: and many that were feeding in the evening were found dead in the morning. A serious peculiarity of the disease was, the communication of the virus or morbid matter generated in the body of the animal to those persons who flayed the animals that had died of it. From a small and circumscribed vesicle, containing a dark and turbid fluid, a malignant and destroying ulcer was formed which ended in a mortification of the part, and was accompanied by chills and fever, severe pains in the joints, and along the course of the spine, and prostration of the vital powers. Delirium and death followed. No remedy is mentioned for the disease in the brute animal. In the human subject, stimulating applications, consisting of carbonate of potash, and solutions of sal ammoniac in vinegar, to the parts affected, after removing the dead flesh, and bark internally, were successfully applied and given.

4. A paper on the hoof disease of horned cattle, by the chairman. This disease was shown by facts communicated by the late Joseph Cooper, of New Jersey, by William Rush, an extensive grazier, late of Philadelphia, and others, to proceed from the use, by the stock, of hay made of the *poa viridis*, green or spear grass, growing on meadows which were deprived of their accustomed supply of water, in consequence of which the seeds of the grass became affected with ergot, similar to that which appears in rye. The disease appeared to great extent in Orange County, New York, in the years 1818 and 1820, and has been described by Dr Arnell, of that county. Dr A. mentions the prevalence of the disease, also, in Blooming Grove, New York; the very place in which Dr Rush had seen the disease during the *very dry summer* of the year 1793. The grass was the produce of *bog meadow soil*. The same effects followed the use of the diseased hay by the cattle, as were observed to take place in France in persons who ate bread made from the flour of rye, which was affected with ergot [for particulars, see the 3d vol. of Memoirs of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society] viz: The loss of hoofs in cattle, and mortification of the feet in the human subject. The remedies, which Dr Arnell found effectual, were stimulating applications to the feet, such as, 1st. poultices of soap, rye flour, and salt; 2d. a wash of beef brine, applied several times a day, and rubbing feet with an ointment made of the plant *bitter sweet*. These applications enabled the part to throw off the disease. Of the cattle thus treated, only one lost its hoofs. An obvious preventive is to avoid the use of hay affected with ergot. Early cutting of the grass should be attended to.

Report was made, and heard with satisfaction, of the increased circulation of the Almanack annually published since the year 1817, by S. W. Conrad, on the suggestion of this Society, and for which the short papers on agricultural and economical subjects, are communicated by its members: four thousand copies of the Almanac for this year have been sold.

The old and steady friend of the society and liberal patron of our benevolent institutions Robert Barclay, of Berry Hill, England, presented through the President an elegant and useful work, the "*Hortus Gramineus Woburnensis*," or an account of the comparative nutrition contained in the grasses commonly cultivated in England, illustrated by coloured engravings of them. The experiments were carried on at Woburn Abbey, the seat of the Duke of Bedford, by his gardener, Mr Sinclair. The first report on this subject appeared in the Appendix to Sir Humphry Davy's Agricultural Chemistry. The care and trouble required in the conducting of these experiments, must have been immense, and the intelligence and practical knowledge exhibited by the author are apparent throughout the work.

At the meeting preceding the last, another munificent friend in Scotland, (who desires his name to be concealed) made his annual offering of friendship, by presenting the 6th Vol. of the Transactions of the Highland Society of Scotland. The preceding volumes had been regularly forwarded by the same gentleman. Among a number of useful papers in the work, is one containing reports from various practical engineers in England and Scotland, on *Rail Roads*. The volume was immediately placed in the hands of Mr Carey, one of the acting committee of the Pennsylvania Society for Internal Improvement, and an abstract of the contents of the paper has been printed, and is now in circulation.

ARTICLES ABRIDGED FROM PROFESSOR SILLIMAN'S JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND ARTS.

Rocking Stone.—Dr Jacob Porter describes a rocking stone in Savoy, in Berkshire county, supposed to weigh 10 or 12 tons, which may be easily moved about five inches, by the hands or a shoulder, or by standing on the summit and leaning the weight of the body on one foot.—It is of granite, and rests on the summit of a ledge, touching it in three points. Dr Porter also notices a remarkable limestone rock in Lanesboro, 26 feet in length and 18 in breadth, which rests on another rock for about 2 1-2 feet having no other support. It is immoveable.

Acceleration of water wheels.—The authors of two letters published in the Journal remark that it is a well known fact, that the velocity of water wheels is greater by night than by day.—In the spinning of cotton, it becomes necessary to lower the gate and let on less water in the evening than in the day time. These writers are inclined to attribute this acceleration of water wheels to the increased pressure of the atmosphere in the night, and one of them observes, that the same result takes place in the winter

* Endemic diseases are those that exist in a country from causes connected with it, as the fever and ague in marshy districts.

when warm weather is followed by cold, or the water is more directly acted upon by a body of ice upon its surface. The Journal contains a third letter on this subject, the writer of which states that it is the universal opinion that mills move faster in the night than in the day, but having performed some experiments, he found that they *did not* move more rapidly by night than by day.

Moving rocks.—Several accounts have been published of rocks situated in a pond or lake gradually approaching the shore, and there is no longer any doubt of the truth of these statements. Some of these rocks move only a few feet, others one or two rods, every year; leaving a channel in the mud behind them, and pushing up the earth before them. These phenomena have been attributed to various causes, but a writer in the Journal is satisfied that the motion is produced by the operation of the ice. The ice forms firmly about the rock, and as it expands from the middle of the pond towards the shore, carries the rock along with it. It is evident to those who have observed how ice is formed, that in all cases it expands from the middle towards the borders. When water is frozen in a vessel it expands from the middle to the outside and breaks the vessel. A frozen egg bursts from the same cause. On lakes and ponds the weight of the ice prevents the expansion upwards; the water resists it below; its expansion will therefore be directed towards the shore; and if the shore is so inclined as to offer little or no resistance the ice will project beyond the water.—The writer states that he has observed ice at the edge of ponds projecting upon the shore a considerable distance. If this ice had formed upon a rock, it must have carried it towards the shore, and every time the ice formed, the rock would be carried farther forward. It has been observed that fences standing erect in autumn, near the edge of grounds covered by water during the winter, have considerably inclined towards the shore as soon as the ice was formed.

The author of another communication attempts to explain the phenomenon of moving rocks on the following principles. At the breaking up of winter, the ice nearest the shores first dissolves; rains and melted snow raise the water of the pond, whereby the ice and the rocks attached to it are raised; a strong wind then drives the ice and rocks towards the shore.—according to this exposition, the rocks on one side of the pond would be carried not *to* the shore, but *from* it.—*Northampton Gazette.*

IMPROVEMENT OF WOOL.

A plan of an Association has been formed, to be called "*The New-England Society for the Improvement of Wool;*" the constitution of which already bears the signatures of

John Quincy Adams, Samuel C. Allen, William Bainbridge, Francis Baylies, Joshua Clapp, B. W. Crowninshield, David Cummings, Samuel Dana, James H. Duncan, Henry W. Dwight, James Lloyd, E. H. Mills, Jonas Sibley, William Sturgis, and Daniel Webster, of *Massachusetts.*

Ichabod Bartlett, Samuel Bell, Matthew Harvey, John F. Parrott, and Thomas Whipple, Jr. of *New-Hampshire.*

William Burleigh, Ebenezer Herrick, John Holmes, Enoch Lincoln, and Stephen Thatcher, of *Maine.*

William C. Bradley, D. Azro, A. Buck, Samuel Crafts, Henry Olin, William A. Palmer, and Horatio Seymour, of *Vermont.*

Stephen Van Ranselaer, and Moses Hayden, of *New-York.*

James De Wolf, and Job Durfee, of *Rhode Island.*

James Lanman, of *Connecticut.*

Samuel Breck, and Samuel D. Ingham, of *Pennsylvania.*

James Monroe, and James Barbour, of *Virginia.*

Wm. Cranch, and Wm. Wirt, of the *District of Columbia.*

By the provisions of the Constitution, the President of the Society may belong to any State, the Vice Presidents to be from each of the six New-England States. The seat of the Society, to be in Boston, with branches in other New-England capitals. First election to be in June.

The duties of the Society to be—to find out the best breeds of sheep which now exist in the country, in order to ascertain the degrees of perfection to which sheep have already been brought in the United States—to procure, as far as their means may enable them, from other countries, specimens of their best breeds, in order to ascertain how far the breeds now in this country, or any breeds mixed from them, will thrive and become productive in the Eastern States—to disperse the different breeds over New England, in order to ascertain what food and pasturage is best adapted to the different breeds—and, generally, by reports, essays, and otherwise to excite a spirit for the improvement of sheep and wool in every part of the country.

Every person subscribing to the Constitution "with his own proper hand" and becoming subject to assessments, to be a Member. It is hoped, that to the above list there will be large additions of our Yeomanry; and we are confident much good will be the result, both to the agricultural and manufacturing interests of New-England, from the Association.

HORTICULTURE.

A New York paper mentions that the number of Fellows of the London Horticultural Society is between *two and three thousand*, embracing all classes of the community, from the King who is its Patron, and who subscribed 500*l.* for the promotion of its objects, down to the daily labourer, who has distinguishnd himself by a knowledge of horticulture. Its associates and correspondents are dispersed through every country of the globe, and are to be found upon the remotest islands of the sea. In the list of members, resident in the United States, we find the names of Gov. Clinton and Dr. Hosack: and as corresponding members, Messrs. Floy, Hogg, and Wilson, of N. York, Mr. Buel of Albany, Mr. Prince of Flushing. L. I., Mr. Thomas of Cayuga county, Messrs. Lowell and Perkins of Boston, Mr. Cox of New-Jersey, and Mr. Dick, of Philadelphia.

To prevent the formation of crust upon the inside of tea kettles.

Put into the tea kettle a flat oyster shell, and keep it constantly there; it will attract the stony particles that are in the water, to itself, and prevent their forming upon the tea-kettle.

Or, as the shell occasions a disagreeable noise regularly clean the inside of the kettle. No crust forms on common sauce pans which are cleaned whenever they are used.

To make salt butter fresh.

Put four pounds of salt butter into a churn, with four quarts of new milk, and a small portion of arnotto. Churn them together, and, in about an hour, take out the butter, and treat it exactly as fresh butter, by washing it in water, and adding the customary quantity of salt.

This is a singular experiment. The butter gains about three ounces in each pound, and is in every particular equal to fresh butter. It would be greatly improved by the addition of two or three ounces of fine sugar, in powder. A common earthen churn answers the same purpose as a wooden one, and may be purchased at any pot shop.

To remove the taste of turnips from milk or butter.

The taste of the turnip is easily taken off milk and butter, by disolving a little nitre in spring water, which being kept in a bottle, and a small tea-cup-full put into eight gallons of milk when warm from the cow, entirely removes any taste or flavour of the turnip.

Useful invention—Much curiosity was excited about 9 o'clock yesterday evening in the Strand, by the appearance of a gentleman on horseback, from whose feet streams of light issued forth, and show'd the pavement for several yards before and round the head of his horse, as clearly as in daytime. He stopped at our office, and we found, on examination, that the light proceeded from a set of lamps of his invention, one of which was fixed under each stirrup, and, having three sides darkened, emitted in front a blaze which was prevented by the rider's feet from rising to dazzle his eyes, and fell on the foreground with such power as to make every hollow or impediment visible, and render it as safe to ride in the darkest night as in the brightest noon. The lamps are supplied with common oil, and so ingeniously arranged, that the light is not affected in the least by the motion of the horse.—*Eng. pap.*

Melting Iron by Steam.—It is said that Mr. Stephen P. Conn, of Georgetown, District of Columbia, has really discovered the practicability of *melting iron with steam only;* and he has so far succeeded as to bring the iron down to welding heat by this process.

Mr. Gideon Davis who accurately describes Mr. Conn's method of generating steam, says—"I have no doubt that a steam generator can be made, on the principle of this improvement, that a man could take up under his arm and carry, that would generate steam sufficient, to work an engine of twenty horse power."

Molasses Cake.—Three tea cups of molasses, three tea spoonsful of saleratus, 1 quart of milk, and 1 tea spoonful of salt. Dissolve the saleratus in a cup of the milk, and mix the whole as you would pound cake.

For the stings of Bees and other poisonous insects. Wash the part with spirits of hartshorn or the lye of wood ashes.

CULTURE OF PASTEL OR WOAD.

JOHN LOWELL, Esq.

Brinley Place (near Boston.)

DEAR SIR—I herewith send you a copy of the letter required.

As I know you take great interest in our domestic improvements, I send you a paper containing a letter from De Caritat, to the President of the N. York Society for the Encouragement of Manufactures, presuming you may not have seen it. I do this, because the fact which I stated in my letter to you that *woad was indispensably necessary for making a permanent blue die, is confirmed* by an experienced dier from Switzerland.

The indigenous substitute which he says he has discovered in this country, cannot be so easily or abundantly raised as the woad, for milkweed requires a peculiar soil.

Perhaps it may be well to put an extract of that communication in your agricultural publication, by way of a note, confirmatory of the statement contained in my letter as to the importance of woad to ferment the indigo vat.—It is so difficult to induce our agriculturists and mechanics to make experiments, that nothing should be omitted which may tend to convince them of the truth of whatever may be of private or public benefit.

It is a lamentable and notorious fact, that a too general belief prevails, that nothing useful can be learned from *books*, in relation to agriculture or manufactures. This prejudice being once removed, we shall soon equal those nations who now so much excel us.

England has made most rapid improvements in agriculture since the establishment of the numerous agricultural societies, which are now scattered over that kingdom. We must do the same. It is up hill work ; but I trust the spirit of our best citizens will clear the way and pursue the object with patriotic zeal.

Our farmers have not advanced in any degree in proportion, either to their natural intelligence or the progress of the arts in other countries.—They plant Indian corn to their ruin ; their orchards are as neglected as their woodlands ; and after you get at a distance from considerable towns, *horticulture* is scarcely known. New England can furnish bread stuff for the whole of the United States, and is still dependent on the southern states for flour.

The states of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia do not yield, on an average, more than eight bushels of wheat to the acre ; and no part of New England yields much less than twenty, and from that to forty.

I rode over a part of the District of Maine, New-Hampshire, Vermont, and this State, in 1816, and I presume there was twice as much wheat raised as in any other year. Notwithstanding the season, the crops were never better, while the *corn* was generally destroyed.—Our farmers never will grow rich until they abandon planting *Indian corn ;* it is ruinous to their prosperity. Wheat, rye, and barley are raised with more ease, are more certain, and nearly twice as valuable.

Our ancestors found the *natives living on Indian corn*, and we do the same. I cannot discover any other reason why such a practice should prevail. The northern nations of Europe never raise *Indian corn*. Wheat is an article of export even from the Baltic and Black sea, and still we cannot shake off this fatal predilection for *corn*.

I have about two bushels of woad seed which I shall be glad to give to any person who may wish to make an experiment. Should application be made to your society for seed, please to require it of me.

With great respect,
Your obedient servant
H. A. S. DEARBORN.

Pastel or Woad important to our Farmers as a product, and to our Manufacturers as a substitute for Indigo.

The public are indebted to General H. A. S. Dearborn, of Roxbury, not only for the translation of an admirable treatise of C. P. De Lasteyrie, on the culture, preparation, history, and analysis of Woad, but amidst his numerous public avocations, for his spirited and judicious experiments upon its culture, and the process of obtaining a pigment from it.

The Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, in submitting his letter to the public, tender him their respectful acknowledgements for his interesting communication. They assure the public that they have a specimen of the pigment obtained by General Dearborn, very nearly resembling in colour and all its sensible properties, the most perfect Indigo. General Dearborn, in the true spirit of a patriotic citizen, also authorizes them to assure the public, that he has two bushels of Woad seed ready to be given to any person who may be disposed to cultivate it. The work translated by General Dearborn may be had gratis by the Agricultural Societies throughout this state, by applying to the Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society ; General Dearborn having presented certain copies for this end.

Before we insert General Dearborn's letter, we would observe that a French gentleman of science, Monsieur De Caritat, has recently, in a letter to the New-York society for the encouragement of manufactures, thus noticed and confirmed the opinions of General Dearborn.—Speaking of a Mr. Treytorrens, a dier of Switzerland, he says :

"Through the kindness and zeal of Dr. Mitchell and Mr James Robertson, with whom I have made him (Mr Treytorrens) acquainted, he had knowledge of a work just published in Boston, and sent by the translator, Mr H. A. S. Dearborn, to the former gentleman. When he ran it over and examined it, he came again to me, wishing I should state to you his observations and discoveries, either relative to the subject, or some other branches of his profession, tending to shew his devotedness to his adopted country, and particularly its manufactures.

"The following are nearly his words :—Pastel or Woad, on which a treatise has just been published in Boston, is well known and familiar to Mr Treytorrens, not as having cultivated it himself, which however he often saw and observed in the soil, nor manufactured, though acquainted with the process ; but as having employed its product for dying. Its quality, and its *indispensable use* with indigo to obtain a deep rich and superfine blue color will be the sole end of his remarks now. Without Pastel or Woad or a substitute perfectly analogous, according to him, there is no possibility of dying in deep unchangeable blue, (let the materials be what they will,) of a superior quality. As this plant is not indigenous to the United States, and has been in Europe considered by the learned among many of a similar nature, *as deserving the preference*, the treatise concerning it, and especially the success of the experiments made here, for cultivating the same, must of course be regarded *as most precious and valuable acquisitions.*'" Mr. Treytorrens then goes on to speak of a substitute for Pastel, but which he does not pretend to say is better, and which he calls Milkweed, or silk-grass. What this plant is, or what part of it is used, does not appear. It will not, we are persuaded, supersede the valuable plant described in the following letter.

Brinley-Place, (near Boston).

SIR—As a citizen of Massachusetts, I feel great solicitude in every thing which may contribute to render the products of her soil of importance to the nation and render the labours of the Agriculturist profitable.

As the Society of this Commonwealth for the encouragement of those objects, have recommended experiments and invited communications on all subjects interesting to the farmer, I herewith transmit a number of copies of a work, which I have translated from the French, on the culture of Woad or Pastel, and the use of its blue pigment in dying.

Desirous of testing the correctness of the experiments which are therein detailed, of the best methods of cultivating Pastel, and extracting the indigo from the matured leaves of the plant, I sowed a piece of ground early in May, in drills, three feet apart, and at the first weeding thinned out the plants, so as to leave them six inches apart.

On the 15th of August, I cut a part of the leaves, which covered $\frac{1}{6}\frac{1}{0}$ part of an acre, and pursued the process contained in the *Information upon the Art of extracting Indigo from the leaves of Pastel*, published by order of His Excellency Montalivet, count of the empire and Minister of the interiour; contained in the treatises transmitted. The experiment succeeded to admiration, and I herewith send you a sample of the Indigo obtained.

The fermentation was perfect at the expiration of 48 hours. The liquor being drawn off from the vats, one bucket of lime water, prepared agreeably to the directions contained in the treatise, was added to two of the liquor, and then agitated with a small wooden rake, for fifteen minutes, when a most copious white froth arose to the surface, which soon assumed a bright blue colour. This froth was carefully skimmed off and put into earthen bowls to dry and gave me a quantity of "*fleuree*," as mentioned at page 138; a quart of which I send you.

The green flocculi were deposited in two hours. The superincumbent yellow liquor being drawn off, an ounce of sulphuric acid, diluted with water, to every bucket of the liquor, was poured into the green precipitate, which instantly changed it to a most beautiful cerulean blue : cold water was then poured into this admixture and violently agitated for ten minutes.

Twelve hours after, the liquor was drawn off and the blue deposition put into cloth filters to

drain. In twenty-four hours the indigo was perfectly drained, taken out, and put into a box with a linen bottom, which was placed in an airy situation, under cover. At the expiration of seventeen days, it had become a tenacious paste; was taken out with a wooden knife, and pressed into small boxes to dry. In two weeks the indigo was perfectly dry.

At the expiration of twenty days, the plants which had been cut, were grown sufficiently large to cut again; which would give of course, three cuttings a year, in this northern climate; but if sown in September, there might be four, if not five, cuttings a year. As the plants are not injured by the frosts of winter, they would, in this way be fit to cut in June.

From this experiment, I am satisfied the following quantity of indigo could be made from an acre of ground. One cutting from $\frac{1}{6}\frac{1}{6}$ of an acre gave, of indigo, half a pound. One cutting from one acre therefore, would have given thirty pounds—four cuttings, one hundred and twenty pounds. The present price of indigo is two dollars per pound; therefore, one acre of land, cultivated with Pastel, would produce to the farmer, two hundred and forty dollars.

I wish you to distribute some of the books I have sent, among the different agricultural societies in this state, and the remainder in such manner as will best tend to diffuse a knowledge of the advantages which the agriculturists and diers of this state may derive from the cultivation and use of Pastel.

If the present pacific state of the world is adverse to the extension of the cultivation and use of Pastel, as a dying material, it is nevertheless important, that the advantages which the different sections of our country may reap, at some future period, from this plant, should be known, when less favourable circumstances shall combine, to deprive us of the colouring ingredients, now so easily obtained, from every part of the globe.

During the war, indigo was four dollars a pound in New-England and New-York.

It is of the first consequence to a nation, that it can, at all times, be able to rely on the resources of its soil and industry, for not only the necessaries but the luxuries of life.

The resources of the United States are as yet, very imperfectly developed; but the rapid advances, which are now making in chemistry, mineralogy, botany, agriculture, and the mechanic and fine arts, warrant the most favourable anticipations of the future glory, prosperity, happiness and real independence of the republic.

Besides the advantages arising from the cultivation of woad, as a pigment for dying, it is indispensably necessary for fermenting the *indigo vat*. For this purpose, the green leaves are used, or they are made into cakes, balls or *pelotes*, as described in the treatise.

It is a notorious fact, among well taught, scientific and experinced diers, that a deep, permanent and brilliant blue cannot be produced, unless the indigo vat is fermented with woad. It has long been used in France, Germany and Holland, in preparing the indigo vats in the best manufactories of those countries, and is now used in England; for it is found impossible to imitate the justly celebrated *naval blues* of France without it. A more perfect fermentation is thereby produced, in solution. The colouring pigment, prepared in this manner, attaches itself so firmly to the fabricks, that clothes thus died appear of a deep uniform and beautiful blue; the colour does not rub off, and never fades by exposure to wet, heat or the air, but remains permanent and unchanged.

There is no art less perfectly understood in this country, than dying; and it has been owing exclusively to the exertions of the first chemists of Europe, that it has been reduced to a perfect system, and the whole process conducted on known established principles.

Formerly there was a mysteriousness in the process, which for a long time excluded all attempts at investigation. Those who practised the art, made it a point to keep, as important secrets, whatever they knew, and like the manufacturers of glass, suffered no inspection of their labours, lest they should be robbed of an imaginary treasure. There were no means within their power of detecting the causes of failure in the preparation of their vats, for they were ignorant of the chemical effects of the different ingredients used. They merely knew from practice, or tradition that a certain combination of materials made a red, blue, yellow, or green die, and if from an injudicious admixture the anticipated result did not take place, they merely said they had "*bad luck*."

Long custom had created prejudices, which forbade instruction, and, like many individuals of every mechanic art, the diers laid it down as an axiom, that nothing useful could be learned from books, or instruction communicated by individuals, who had not served an apprenticeship, and laboured in the same vocation.

The vast strides which have been made in knowledge during the last fifty years, have been confined to the schools of the literati, or only known to the secluded philosopher.

Useful discoveries in the arts, instead of giving eclat to the laborious investigator and patient experimentalist, have been extensively disseminated.

The perfection of European manufactories is attributed to chemical investigation.

The superior manufactories of painters' colours, earthen ware, and porcelain, soap, medicinal preparations, the working of metals, the art of dying and distilling, and the astonishing improvements in agriculture, are some of the important effects, which have resulted from the chemical pursuits of the learned individuals, societies and academies of the last half century.

Although the United States have progressed in civilization and the arts, in a manner unparallelled in the annals of nations, still much remains for inquiry; and it is the duty of every citizen to contribute, by every means within his power, whatever may tend to advance the best interests of all classes of society, and render our nation industrious, learned, independent and happy.

With great respect,
Your obedient servant,
H. A. S. DEARBORN.

Elegant furniture is manufactured from the red bay wood of Florida. This is one of the most abundant productions of the soil, and is said to equal the best mahogany for beauty or durability.

From the American Farmer.

CURE FOR CHOLIC IN HORSES.

Brunswick County, Feb. 12, 1825.

Sir,—Noticing in No. 45, of the Farmer, the case of your sorrel horse, induces me to inform you of a never failing remedy for the cholic in the horse, having used it invariably with success for the last 25 years. I obtained my information from a travelling gentleman, who said also that he never knew it fail. It is nothing more than half a pound of glauber salts administered in a drench. I generally guess at the quantity and no doubt frequently give more, for it will do no harm. How it has this powerful and immediate effect, I submit to others to point out; but it certainly will give entire relief in fifteen or twenty minutes, not only to the horse but to the ox. Although I have had a knowledge of this remedy for such a length of time, and have always recommended it to others who had horses labouring under this disease, with success too, still there are only a few who, knowing of this remedy, are willing on all occasions to apply it, which can be accounted for in no other way than that its simplicity makes them incredulous as to its effects. After you, Sir, have been convinced of the efficacy of this remedy, you would do a signal service to the community to endeavour, through your paper, to impress them with a sense of its utility.

Some time since, I cautioned my son of this remedy, who has his first horse; a few days afterwards one of my horses was taken with a violent spasm of the stomach; I carried my son out with his watch to witness the happy effects of salts; the horse was in such pain as to be unable to stand to be drenched, it was given him as he lay; in fifteen minutes he appeared to be perfectly easy and went to a pool to drink.—Notwithstanding this, his own horse (from home at the time) being taken with symptoms similar to those you described, instead of applying my remedy, was persuaded, by knowing ones, to try other remedies with no effect, after which he had recourse to the salts, which relieved him immediately.

To pound Red Pepper.—One of your subscribers in a late Number wishes to know how to prepare Cayenne, or Red Pepper, for the table. Let him crush the pods a little, or clip them with scissors and mix them with *only* as much flour and water as will cause the particles to adhere; being made up in the form of a biscuit, bake it slowly until perfectly dry, when it will pound easily. Your very humble servant,

RICH. K. MEADE.

The Vermont Gazette states that an extensive bed of Iron Ore has been discovered in the South part of Dorset. The quality is such that a horse-shoe has been wrought in a blacksmith's fire, directly from the Ore.

Prize Questions. The editors of the Carolina Journal of Medicine, Science and Agriculture have offered medals of $20 value, or books, for the best essays "on the bilious remittent fever," and "on the best method of draining marsh and swamp lands, and fitting them for cultivation." Essays to be sent (post paid) on or before Nov. next.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1825.

NOTICE.—The office of the New England Farmer is removed to No. 31 Congress street, corner of Lindall street, four doors from the Post Office. —

Several communications have been received.

BEES.

Carefully inspect your bee hives, and if they are found light, or the bees appear to be in a weak and languid state, it will be best to feed them. We have given some directions for that purpose, vol. ii. p. 278, but as we have many subscribers who are not in possession of that volume, we will repeat the substance of our former observations, and give some additional remarks. If the hive should appear to be light when raised in the hands, or the weight of the swarm should be otherwise ascertained to fall short of four pounds exclusive of the hive, you will do well to give them a little food. In this case particular care must be taken to avoid the robbery of other bees. The best period for feeding the bees is the evening, and on the following morning take away the surplus food, and restore it again in the evening. The sense of smell in bees is so acute that it immediately scents the food, which may be placed in a hive, and an attack on it will be the consequence.

It is recommended to feed bees with honey mixed with good old white wine in the proportion of six pounds of honey to one of wine; it should be placed on a slow fire and stirred till the honey is all dissolved. The following is recommended by Mr Huish:—"Dissolve one pound of sugar in a quart of good old ale; boil and skim it until it is clear; when cool it will have the consistence of honey, and may be given your bees."

The Cottager's Manual says, "the warmer the hives are kept in March, [or April in this country] the better, as it accelerates the hatching of the eggs, and promotes the prolific nature of the Queen." March and April are good months for the purchase of stock hives—as they have weathered all the casualties of winter, and little fear need now be entertained of famine. The following directions from the same work for such purchase will be found useful.

When a person intends to purchase a hive, he should go in the middle of the day into the garden where it stands, and take particular notice of the manner in which the bees of any individual hive work. As it is probable there may be other hives in the garden, the choice is easier to be determined by a comparison of one hive with another, in regard to the following particular points.

1. The number of bees which are seen going in with yellow balls, or pellets, attached to their legs.

2. The number of drones; the greater the number, the more prolific the hive.

3. The general bustle and activity which are observed about the hive, and whether the bees leave the hive with velocity, taking wing immediately when they come out--or whether they saunter about and then re-enter the hive—the latter is a bad symptom.

4. The eagerness with which they appear to repel the robbing bees.

5. The number of bees which stand at the entrance, fanning with their wings; some beemasters call these bees the musicians of the Queen's band, as they continually make a humming noise; others call them idle bees, for the same reason they call a cow idle, who is chewing the cud—both are fulfilling a positive law of nature—and the greater the number of bees at the entrance, the greater the internal heat, which being occasioned by a crowded population, indicates at once the goodness of the hive.

Having fixed upon the hive which you intend to purchase, loosen it gently from the board on which it stands, for should it not have been plastered down, the bees will have fastened it themselves. Be careful not to jerk it, for this motion will be apt to rouse the bees, and may, perhaps, break some of the combs. The hive being loosened, turn it gently up; the bees will make a slight buz, and should they shew any disposition to fly or sting, smoke them with some tobacco smoke from the fumigating bellows, or common tobacco pipe. Proceed then to inspect the interiour, which must present the following appearances.

1. The hive must be crowded with bees.

2. The combs must be of a yellow hue, which declares it to be a new hive. Should the comb be very black, reject the hive altogether, for it is infallibly an old one.

3. The side combs must be completely filled with honey, which can easily be ascertained by observing all the cells sealed up, whereas the cells in the middle combs will be empty.

4. If a number of Queen cells are perceived, which will be seen attached to the sides of the combs, like small inverted acorn cups, only more closed at the top—reject the hive, for it is a sure indication of an old hive.

5. If a very strong odour issues from the hive, reject it. This is, however, a difficult criterion to establish, as it cannot be supposed that an unexperienced person can immediately distinguish the different odours which proceed from a hive.

6. If any liquid spots of dark colour appear on the board of the hive, it would not be prudent to purchase it, for it is certain that the bees are afflicted with the dysentery.

7. If you perceive on the stool a great number of small yellow particles of wax it is a positive proof that the hive is infected with moths—it would be throwing money away to purchase such a hive; and if amongst those particles some small grubs are perceptible, with a reddish head, you may condemn the hive as good for nothing, for it will not last two months longer.

8. If you perceive the wings of the Bees to be ragged or torn at the ends, it is a positive sign of an old hive.

Having thus examined the hive, outside and inside, and determined on the purchase of it, the next step to be taken is its removal. For this purpose, the evening must be selected, and when it is perceived that the Bees are all come home, stop up the entrance with some clay or any other substance at hand; this, however, is under the supposition that you can take the board also on which the hive stands, but should it be placed with others upon a bench, which is a most injudicious plan, a board must then be laid upon the ground, exactly in the front of the hive, and the hive must then be gently lifted upon it; but here a difficulty will occur, which shews the inconvenience of placing several hives on the same bench. As soon as the hive is taken off, a great number of Bees will be found on the board, which must not be sacrificed; the hive must therefore be held level with the board, and the bees must be swept into it with a goose's wing or a small branch of a tree; the hive must then be placed upon the board, and the entrance stopped up, and every crevice through which a Bee can escape. The hive can then be removed by tying an old sheet or table cloth round it, and carried by the hand or on the head. If you have purchased two or three hives, they may be removed on a hand barrow, or carried like two milking pails. Having arrived at the place of their destination, let them settle for about half an hour, taking the clay from the entrance, that the Bees may not be suffocated; then deposit the hive on the pedestal, letting it front the south-east, and on the following day plaster it round the bottom. The stock may then be considered to be fairly established.

BREED OF HORSES.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, held the 22d instant, the cordial thanks of the Board were voted to Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin, of the British Navy, for a Stud-Horse and Mare, of the Yorkshire Cleveland Bays, the most highly approved breed in England for the coach, and for the road, which were ready to be presented by him, and to be placed at the direction of the Society in Liverpool. They are expected to arrive in this city in June, when notice will be given where they will be placed.

ON THE CULTIVATION OF WOAD.

We hope that the valuable article, which we have this day republished from the Massachusetts Agricultural Journal, on the above mentioned subject will meet the attention it merits from Agriculturists and Manufacturers. It appears to us to be well calculated to increase the resources and augment the wealth of the United States; and as such, claims the consideration of the statesman and the merchant as well as those who may be employed either in the cultivation of woad or in applying it to its uses in our manufactories.

Gen. Dearborn has been so good as to oblige the Editor with a copy of his translation of the treatise on woad by C. P. De Lasteyrie. This we hope to give to the publick through the medium of our paper, either in whole in part, as we can find room in our columns.

The opinions of Gen. Dearborn respecting the culture of Indian corn do not coincide with those of some of our ablest agriculturists. They were expressed immediately after the signal failure of that crop in 1816, when it was almost a general sentiment among practical as well as scientific cultivators that the culture of that plant in New England was unprofitable and therefore unwise.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

POTATOES.

Stockport, (Pa.) March 22, 1825.

Mr Fessenden,—I thank your correspondents

'J.M.' &c. for their information respecting the culture of Onions.

As the season is approaching, I may make a few remarks respecting raising potatoes. It ever was my opinion, that the best and most forward of every kind of produce should be taken for seed. I never approved of cutting seed potatoes, or, as some people do, taking the small ones for seed, thinking they were of later growth and not arrived to natural perfection.

Last spring I took one bushel of what is here called "*Ox Nobles*," to try the experiment in my garden. I assorted them in three qualities—the largest, the middling size, and smallest. I planted them in hills—one row,—one large potatoe in a hill. Of the middle, about an equal weight in a hill,—and of the smallest kind, about an equal weight in each hill. The result was, the hills of large potatoes came up first, grew with the largest and strongest stalks, produced the earliest and largest potatoes, and much the greatest quantity to the hill; although an equal weight of seed of each kind was planted in each class of hills.

I also further observed in digging them for early use, that the large seed potatoes were perfectly hard and sound. I broke all the sprouts and roots off a number of them—and planted them carefully; again they came up as before, and the same seed produced a second crop before frost, of from one to two ounces weight;—when the seed of the second class was soft and decaying, and that of the third class or small ones, perfectly rotten.

As the proverb is—'*one swallow does not make summer*'—I wish for others to try the experiment in different soils and publish their observations.

SAMUEL PRESTON.

[REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.]

We believe it is a fact well ascertained, that, other things being equal, the largest and best potatoes when planted for seed, will produce the greatest crop. But that the same seed potatoe should produce a second crop is to us new and extraordinary. The Hon. Mr FISKE, in his Address to the Worcester Agricultural Society, published in the New England Farmer, vol. ii. page 145, says, "the potatoe is not susceptible of vegetation until the season succeeding its growth." Mr PRESTON'S experiment proves that two crops may be raised in the season from the same seed potatoe. This discovery is curious, and may lead to some useful result; and we agree with Mr Preston, in the wish that experiments similar to his, may be repeated, and their results published.

The following paragraph has reference and should have been added to an article published in our last No. page 273, under the head "Shearing Sheep." It was not received till too late for insertion in our last.

Mr FESSENDEN,—

By way of postscript, if you please, you may add what follows to the observations which I sent you a few days since on the *early shearing of sheep.*

"Mr Potter says that he has found from actual experiment, that he not only gets more wool, which would otherwise be lost, but the *succeeding wool* will be from 1-2 to 1 inch longer, if sheared early, than it will be if delayed to the usual time of shearing. And farther, there is not the same necessity for washing the sheep as the wool is much cleaner, more free from sand and dirt when taken off early, than it will be if suffered to remain on their backs until a hot sun has compelled them to seek a refuge under the walls and fences. Yours, &c.

LEMUEL W. BRIGGS.

The Pennsylvania Institute are to have an exhibition in Oct. to continue 3 days, and have offered premiums for steel—iron pipes—anvils—green paint—water colours—crucibles—pottery-glass ware—broadcloth—negro cloth—cassimere—flannel—green baize—blankets—carpeting—sattinett—blue and yellow nankeen—chintzes—calicoes—solempores—cambric muslin—cotton thread—loom stockings—linen shirtings—gilt buttons—sole leather—russia leather—morocco—bucks, kid, sheep and horse-skin gloves—japanned leather—and pianofortes.

American Glass. Our attention was called yesterday to the examination of a novel, curious and elegant specimen of American industry and talent from the glass making establishment of Messrs Bakewell, Page and Bakewell, of Pittsburg. It consists of cut glass tumblers, in the bottom of each of which, by a very ingenious process, is imbedded an excellent likeness of some distinguished American citizen, as Adams, Jackson, Lafayette, &c. The likeness is formed of a composition having the appearance of silver, and although presented in bold relief, every part is enclosed in the solid glass, and is consequently indelible.

Baltimore American.

The citizens of Baltimore have petitioned Congress for a share of the Public business.—The inhabitants of many places shew an unceasing vigilance in guarding or promoting the interests of their cities.

All the Gunboats, except one, built at Philadelphia for the Colombian Republic, had arrived at Laguira previous to March 1.

400 bills are before the Legislature of N. York, and 1300 petitions have been presented.

The lands lately obtained by the U. S. of the Creek Indians for Georgia, embrace more acres than several States.

A new institution, called the Bank of North America, will go into operation at Providence in about a month.

The Governor of the Province of N. Brunswick has recommended to the Legislature the appointment of an Engineer to survey the route of a Canal from the Bay of Fundy to the Gulf of St. Lawrence—and surveys for improving the navigation of the rivers of the Province.

The Cotton-Gin house on the plantation of the Vice President of the United States, in Abbeville District, S. C. was burnt down on the 18th ult. and 45,000 lbs. of seed cotton destroyed. The fire was occasioned by the friction of a machine which had lately been erected.

An Egyptian Sarcophagus weighing 30,000 lbs. has been transported to Paris.

A person advertises in a Portland paper, a Farm to let, on shares, to "a faithful, industrious man—*none need apply that loves bitters.*"

Whales, some of which are of an enormous size, have made their appearance off Cape May—two boats are out in pursuit of them.

A whale, which will make from 30 to 40 bbls of oil, was recently taken by some young men from Edgartown, who went off in two boats. Other whales have been noticed in that vicinity.

A young man who is a coachman in London, is said to have established his claim to the restored earldom of Perth. The brother of the young man is footman to a British Admiral.

It is supposed that had the proposed Ship Canal, from the English to the British Channels, existed at the time of the late heavy gale in England, property to the amount, at least of 200,000*l.* independently of many lives, would have been saved.

It is stated in the Whitehall (N. Y.) Emporium, that it is in the contemplation of government to remove the armament and naval stores (which are very considerable) from that station to the Atlantic ports, the ships having become useless from decay.

DRY and Ground WHITE LEAD, of a superior quality, for sale in lots to suit purchasers.
ALLUM, in bbls. of 300 lbs.
BLUE VITRIOL, of a superior quality.
REFINED SALTPEERE, in kegs of 112 lbs.
DUPONT'S superior GUNPOWDER—for sporting or blasting—warranted equal to any powder to be had in the United States, for all purposes to which Gunpowder is applied. This powder is sold at wholesale or *retail.*
SHOT—BALLS—FLINTS,—at wholesale or retail.
Also—10,000 gallons of Dyer's superior red and white CURRANT WINE, put up in kegs of 6 gallons, quarter casks of from 28 to 30 gallons, and pipes of 110 gallons. E. COPELAND, jr.
8t 36 65 Broad street.

E. PARSONS & CO. City Furniture warehouse, Union Street, near the Union Stone, keep constantly on hand for sale, a general assortment of furniture, chairs, looking glasses, feathers of all kinds, fire sets, brushes, bellows, &c. &c. *Boston, March 25.*

PATENT HOES—Notice is hereby given, that the subscribers are appointed the sole agents for vending *J. & A. Fale's Patent Hoes*, which are offered for sale at factory prices by A.D.WELD & J. FRENCH Jr.
Boston, March 25, 1825. No. 713 Washington St.

FOR sale at this Office, Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and Sugar Beet seeds, raised this season by John Prince, Esq. Roxbury. The Ruta Baga seed is from superiour roots, from seed not two years since from Sweden. Feb. 11.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

		FROM	TO
		D. C.	D. C.
APPLES, best,	bbl	2 25	2 50
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	102	104 00
pearl do.		104 00	106 00
BEANS, white,	bush	1 10	1 17
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs. new,	bbl.	9 50	10 00
cargo, No 1, new,		7 25	7 50
" No 2, new,		6 00	6 25
BUTTER, inspect. No. 1. new,	lb.	14	15
CHEESE, new milk,		7	8
skimed milk,		3	5
FLAX		9	10
FLAX SEED	bush	83	
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St	bbl.	5 37	5 50
Genessee,		6 00	6 12
Rye, best,			3 87
GRAIN, Rye	bush	57	58
Corn		47	48
Barley		50	
Oats		30	31
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort, new,	lb.	11	12
HOPS, No 1, Inspection		8	11
LIME,	cask	1 25	1 50
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern	gal.	75	80
PLAISTER PARIS retails at	ton.	4 50	4 75
PORK, Bone Middlings, new,	bbl.	14 00	16 50
navy, mess, do.		13 50	14 00
Cargo, No 1, do.		13 00	14 00
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,	bush	2 00	2 25
Clover	lb.	7	8
WOOL, Merino, full blood, wash		60	70
do do unwashed		40	45
do 3-4 washed		45	50
do 1-2 do		37	42
Native do		27	35
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		48	52
do Spinning, 1st sort		40	42

PROVISION MARKET.

BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	10
PORK, fresh, best pieces,		7	8
" whole hogs,		7	8
VEAL,		4	8
MUTTON,		5	9
POULTRY,		8	10
BUTTER, keg & tub,		13	18
lump, best,		15	20
EGGS,		10	12
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bush	65	70
Indian, do.		60	65
POTATOES,		37	50
CIDER, liquor,	bbl.	2 75	3 00
HAY, according to quality,	ton.	16 00	20 00

Miscellanies.

BY T. G. FESSENDEN.

PHYSIOGNOMY.

The Deity, in kindness to our race,
Hath set a stamp on every human face,
By which, together with the shape and air,
A shrewd observer may at once declare,
From characters of no ambiguous kind,
What are the leading lineaments of mind.
Your savage-seeming, verjuice-visag'd noddies
Have minds, in general, fitted to their bodies.
Nature, with all her whims, is rarely known
To gild the casket of a worthless stone.
Of reptiles venomous there are but few,
Which are not likewise loathsome to the view.
There are exceptions to these general rules,
When wise men show the indices of fools;
Shrewd Æsop, and sage Socrates, we're told,
Had features fashion'd in the roughest mould;
But these may rank among anomalous cases,
And few bright minds are blurr'd with ugly faces:
And where the soul is barbarous and rough
The body is of corresponding stuff.
God never meant to mask his human creatures,
And passions mould and modify the features,
Till one as plainly may peruse their traces,
As read a label in their tell-tale faces;
The signs are sure as text of holy book,
For thus we say one has a *hanging look;*
That man's appearance indicates a quiz,
This man exhibits an assasin's phiz.
But grief and care too commonly we find,
Or hopeless love, eclipse the brightest mind;
Anxiety the fairest visage shrouds,
And mental light scarce glimmers through the clouds.
When we perceive the wan brow overcast,
Scath'd by the lightning of misfortune's blast,
'Tis worth one's tender and judicious care
To dissipate the gloom that's gather'd there;
And if it rose from carking care or love,
Which time and tender treatment may remove,
The wand of friendship haply we may find
May call back sunshine to the darkened mind.

A pleasing variety of joint stock companies, founded of course most disinterestedly for the public advantage, have of late years risen like exhalations: there has been a Bread Company, a Beer Company, a Pawnbrokering Company, a Washing by Steam Company, a Stove Grate Company, and many others, none of which need be now mentioned, excepting the *Alderney Milk Company*, the last-born offspring of monopoly.—This nutritious society professes to purvey the vaccine beverage in undiluted states; and diffident of the absolute uncorruptness of its yoke-bearing agents, sends them forth furnished with pails, under the security of lock and key, so that the fluid can only be drawn off by means of a tap. It appears that the directors are persons of whom it can be said with truth—

> Their souls proud science never taught to stray
> Far as the Solar Walk or *Milky way*,

for they have invented a philosophical instrument called a *Lactometer*. One of their customers having complained, that the article with which he had been formerly supplied, was superior to that of the Company; "Say you so?" replied the indignant dairyman, "then I will bring my lactometer to-morrow, and convince you of your mistake." In this age of science, we may fairly expect soon to find milkmen with F. R. S. appended to their names, and cheesemongers and tapsters, who—

> Can tell by sines and tangents straight,
> If cheese or butter wanted weight;
> And by a geometric scale,
> Can take the size of pots of ale. *Lond. pap.*

Dr Greene's Cure for Drunkenness—Whenever you feel an inclination to drink spirituous liquor (grog) drink cool fresh water. This is an effectual cure, and in a very short time, you will make a sober man, out of the greatest drunkard. Drunkenness, the Doctor says, is a disease of the stomach, and cool water is the remedy. In an answer of the Doctor to a letter I sent him, relative to my sickness and drinking spirituous liquors, it contained in substance what I now write, and, thank providence, it has perfectly cured me of that dreadful disease called drunkenness.

I can now attend to my business, and can say, that a sober life is a good life—a saving of many things; it is a saving of cash, it is a saving of the constitution, it is a saving of a man's credit.

THINGS I NEVER SAW.

1. I never saw a printer get two thirds of his subscription money.
2. I never saw a constable, nor a squire, get very rich by his office.
3. I never saw a mountebank speak in favor of a regular bred physician.
4. I never saw a man get wealthy by horse-swapping.
5. I never saw a gambler who would not tell a——fib, IF *he was hard run!*
6. I never saw a woman opposed to petticoat government.
7. I never saw an old bachelor offer courtship to an *old* maid; nor a young girl accept of a *poor* old bachelor.
8. I never saw a widow refuse marrying on account of her *age!*
9. I never saw a man thrive by the plough, who did not either hold or drive.
10. I never saw a clean hearth and a drunken wife in the same family.
11. I never saw a subscriber praise the editor, *after* he was sued for the paper.

Alex. Tilloch, Esq.—This respected individual, on the 26th ult. closed a long life of literary and scientific devotedness; during which he displayed indefatigable industry and zeal in worthy public pursuits, and was no less distinguished for integrity and excellence in the private relations of life. He was for many years the editor of the "Philosophical Magazine;" and a principal proprietor and director of the "Star" newspaper. He also engaged in other periodical as well as distinct publications; and in none we believe, ever broached a sentiment which could shed a cloud upon his dying bed.

Expert Slingers.— The natives of Patagonia carry a missile weapon of a singular kind, tucked into the girdle. It consists of two round stones, covered with leather, each weighing above a pound, which are fastened to the two ends of a string, about eight feet long. This is used as a sling, one stone being kept in the hand, and the other whirled round the head till it is supposed to have acquired sufficient force, and then discharged at the object. They are so expert in the management of this double headed shot, that they will hit a mark not bigger than a shilling, with both the stones, at the distance of fifteen yards: it is not their custom, however, to strike either the Guanico or the Ostrich with them, in the chase, but they discharge them so that the cord comes against the legs of the Ostrich, or two of the legs of the Guanico, and is twisted round them by the force and swing of the balls, so that the animal, being unable to run, becomes an easy prey to the hunter. *Lond. pap.*

An inhabitant of Corfu, who recently returned to that island after an absence of 38 years, found his wife in good health, but the widow of three husbands whom she had successively married. This man was a mariner, who had long resided at Spitsbergen, where he employed himself in the whale fishery.

JOSEPH BRIDGE, No. 25, Court street, has just received, per London Packet, Capt. Ward, and for sale, a large assortment of *Garden*, *Field*, and *Grass Seeds*, which added to his former stock, makes the most extensive variety in New England—among them are,

40 bushels early and late Peas, various kinds.	200 lbs. Carrot,
Beans, various kinds,	*Salsafie*, or Vegetable Oyster,
Early and late Cauliflower,	*Scorenera*,
Cabbage, various kinds, including the following new and choice kinds, viz. St. Georges, Plows Early, Wellington, Imperial, and Ratcatcher,	Chervil,
	Red, White and Italian Celery,
	Batavian and curled Endive,
	Sweet Marjorum,
Lettuce, various kinds,	Thyme,
Melon, do. do.	Summer and Winter Savory,
Early Frame, Short Top, Scarlet, Salmon, Blk. Spanish, Red and White Turnip Radish,	Sage—Baum,
	Sweet Bazil,
	Lavender,
100 lbs. *Mangel Wurtzel*, Sugar Beet,	*Lucerne*,
	Red and White Clover,
150 lbs. *Rutabaga*,	Herd's Grass,
	Foul Meadow,
	Red Top, &c.

With over 200 varieties of *Ornamental Seeds*. Garden Tools, viz:—Pruning and Budding Knives—Pruning Saws—Garden Reels and Lines—Edging Irons—Rakes, Dutch or Pushing Hoes, Transplanting Trowels. Bird Seeds, Green House Plants, and Flower Pots

Fruit and Ornamental Trees.

FOR sale, as usual, at the *Kenrick Place*, near Brighton. The Nurseries have been much enlarged, and contain a variety of Pears, Apples, Cherries, Plums, Apricots, &c. Also, the finest variety of budded Peach Trees known in America; consistingof a choice collection of about 40 of the most approved kinds in our best gardens, or seen in the markets; the Peach Trees are from five to eight feet high, and sold at the moderate price of 30 cents each. of good sized ornamental trees, the flowering Horse Chesnut, flowering Catalpa; European Mountain Ash; Weeping Willow; the Evergreen Silver Fir, and the Larch; English Walnuts and Butter Nuts, both of which are justly admired for their fruit.

Currant Bushes of the large prolific red kind, of all sizes, by the dozen, hundred, or thousand, on moderate terms. Also, the black, white, and Champaign do; red and white Roses; Lilacs; English Grapes, &c.

Orders addressed to JOHN or WILLIAM KENRICK, and sent to the Brighton Post Office, or to the Office of DANA & FENNO, Brokers, in State-street, Boston, will be duly attended to.

N. B. Trees will be packed in clay and mats for shipping, and conveyed to Boston when ordered; but gentlemen at a distance should employ some agent to receive and pay for them.

On Wednesdays and Saturdays, trees will be delivered in Boston, free of charge for conveyance. As one year's growth is often lost by greatly diminishing the roots, if the trees survive, special care will be taken for their preservation. Feb. 25.

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞Published every Friday, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of FIFTY CENTS.